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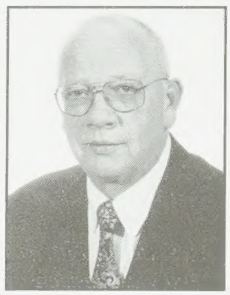
1998-1999

the children's aid society
OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

1998-1999 Annual Report

"Me and My Family Flying Kites" by Amanda Jameson, age 11
(Winner of the 1999 Restaurant Mug Campaign. Amanda's picture will appear on coffee mugs in restaurants in the Hamilton-Wentworth area as part of a Foster Parent Recruitment Campaign.)

1998-1999
REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR



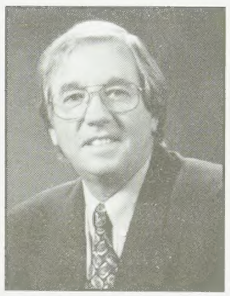
Bruce Elwood
President

This was a year of change for both this Society, and for child welfare across the province. The Society's 1998/99 Budget Submission to the Ministry of Community and Social Services detailed our Child Welfare service delivery programs for the year and included a Base Funding request of $10,982,430. from the local Area Office of the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

During the year, this Society experienced a 20% turnover rate of front-line social workers, prompting management and the board to address recruitment and retention issues in the 1999 collective agreement. From September 1998 to April 1999, this agency, along with the Catholic Children's Aid Society and McMaster University, participated in a joint pilot project which allowed for an enhanced student field placement. This created placements for 11 students with our agency who received intensive formal and on-the-job training.

Changes in child welfare in the province were spearheaded by our provincial association. The Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies continued to play a strong advocacy and support role on behalf of all Children's Aid Societies. Some of the key initiatives of O.A.C.A.S. during the past year were:

1. Proposed amendments to the Child and Family Services Act to increase our ability to protect the safety, well being and best interests of children;
2. By August 1998, the O.A.C.A.S. had provided training to 5,767 individuals for the Ontario Risk Assessment Model (ORAM);
3. The O.A.C.A.S. provided key input in response to the Ministry Child Welfare Accountability Review involving playing a lead role in the standardization of Board training across the province;
4. The O.A.C.A.S., through its funding framework task force, provided major input into the development of a more rational funding approach and collected data from the field to better inform the funding framework.



Sylvio Mainville
Managing Director

Most significant of these changes has been in the area of how front-line workers assess the risk level of children in need of protection. The use of the Ontario Risk Assessment Model gives workers a standardized and effective tool which can assist them in making structured and rational decisions without replacing professional judgement. The Risk Assessment Tool incorporates three important phases; eligibility assessment, safety assessment, and risk assessment. This tool provides a foundation on which workers can develop strategies for reducing identified risk, building family strengths and resolving identified problems.

Locally, the two Children's Aid Societies in Hamilton-Wentworth have continued to work more collaboratively in providing services to children in need of protection in our community. In 1997, the Ministry of Community and Social Services released the policy framework - "Making Services Work for People". From this a local Advisory Panel looking at children's and developmental services in the Hamilton-Wentworth

area, recommended that a review of the two Children's Aid Societies look for ways to enhance services and increase efficiencies.

By mid-1998, both agencies agreed to proceed with an Organizational Alternatives Review (O.A.R.), the purpose of which was to explore a range of possible collaborative and cooperative options up to and including merger of the two Societies.

A joint task group, made up of senior staff and board members from both agencies and representatives from the Ministry Area Office, became the Steering Committee for the O.A.R. In November 1998, 2WA Consulting Inc. was selected to conduct the O.A.R. After several months of information gathering and conducting focus groups with stakeholders, 2WA developed four possible O.A.R. models for review by the Steering Committee. A final decision about the Organizational Alternatives Review will be made in the coming months. This society looks forward to the completion of this process and is anticipating a positive outcome that will create more efficiencies in the area of child welfare services in Hamilton-Wentworth.

It has been extremely important to this organization to create efficiencies in service delivery, however, it is most significant to ensure that our services are delivered appropriately to all those in our community who need it. The Society continues to make significant steps in reaching out to our diverse populations. We have made presentations to members of our Cambodian, black and native communities concerning our role as a child welfare organization and our need for foster parents from these specific populations. In addition we have started to develop partnerships with Settlement and Integration Services Organization (S.I.S.O.) which provides services to immigrant and refugee groups in our region. We continue to use the Hamilton Y.W.C.A.'s Cultural Interpreting Services to assist us in our multicultural work.

As we reach out further into the Hamilton-Wentworth community, we are always so pleased by how this community gives back to our organization. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the individuals, groups, Foundations and businesses who have been so generous in supporting the work of this agency. In particular, we wish to make note of the significant contributions from the Hamilton Community Foundation for contributing over $8,000 to our summer camp fund; the Firestone Sports Bar for helping us raise over $20,000 in Nevada Ticket Sales; the Citizen Action Group of Hamilton for raising over $5,000 during their "Missing Links" Golf Tournament and of course, Sears-Limeridge Mall for their generous contributions to our Summer Raffle and helping us raise over $3,000.

All privately raised funds go to the Children's Aid Society's "Children's Fund" which supports academics, youth employment, life skills training and recreational activities for the children and youth serviced by our Society. We would like to thank all those whose contribution, whether financial or through volunteer hours, has helped our agency to continue to provide important services to vulnerable children and youth.

1998 - 1999 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Bruce Elwood
President

Rosemary Knechtel
Immediate Past President

Mrs. Sylvia Kajiura
1st Vice President

Mrs. Janis North
2nd Vice President

Bob Coulter
Treasurer

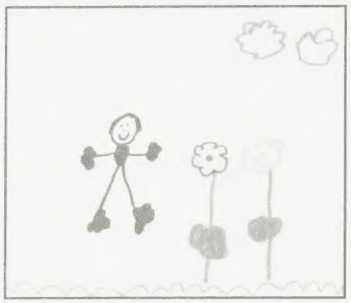
Sylvio Mainville
Secretary

DIRECTORS

*Anne Bain**
Helen Bell
*David Braden**
Ralph Brown
Rob Csorbay
Karen Davis
Robin Ehlert
*Glen Etherington**
Lynne Lee
Phemon Ma
Mel Madamba-Wakeham
Tony Matthews
*Russ Powers**
Penny Ross
Bryan Schofield
Jim Sykes
Margaret Tigchelaar
Graham Tipple
Kim Van Lowe
Susan Wilkie

**Regional Appointees*

FACTS AND FIGURES: 1998 IN REVIEW



"It's about me watching a flower grow"
Stephanie Wouthuis
age 5

Intake Services:

- A total of 6,143 new requests for service were made to the Society.
- The Society's After Hours Emergency Services responded to 3,828 requests for service.

Family and Children's Services:

- A total of 703 children were admitted to the care of the Society during 1998.
- There were 189 foster and group homes opened to the Society as of December 31, 1998. Of these, 25 were Alternate Care homes providing temporary relief for 45 children with special needs.
- The Crisis Intervention Program provided 7,711 hours of support to families and foster families.
- Programs for children and youth: Great Escape Summer Program serviced 100 children and youth; The Summer Therapeutic Recreation Program serviced 26 children and youth; 16 children participated in the new Theatre Drama Program; Camp Champ serviced 45 young children; in addition, 244 children and youth were sponsored to attend a residential or day camp during the summer of 1998.
- The Parent Support Worker Program provided a total of 13,806 hours of direct service to families during 1998.
- The Society's Visitation Program carried out 8,888 hours of supervised visits between children and their parents. This reflects 4,264 visits involving 1,170 families.
- The Society provided direct service placement experiences for 32 students from Mohawk College, McMaster University and Wilfred Laurier University.

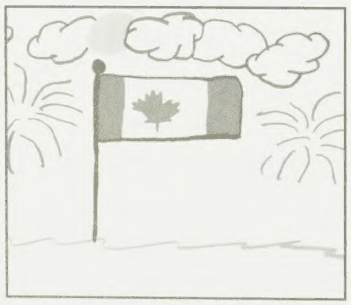
"Spring"
Dallas Bass
age 11

Volunteer Services:

- The agency's Volunteer Services utilized the support of 161 direct service volunteers who provided the following services to children and families during 1998: 20,300 volunteer drives; child care for 65 children; 2,785 hours of special friend (one-to-one) services; 440 hours of clerical and case aide assistance; and 375 hours of supervised visits; Tutors and the McMaster Students for Literacy Program provided 532 hours of support and the Family Support Volunteer Program provided 105 hours of service.

Adoption Services:

- A total of 17 children were placed on adoption by this Society in 1998. Of this number, 15 were under 5 years of age. Twenty-two adoptions were finalized throughout the year.
- There were 415 brief services responded to by the Adoption Intake.
- A total of 188 Adoption Disclosure cases were serviced and closed in 1998 with most of these clients receiving either their non-identifying history, or services facilitating an adoption reunion.



"Canada Day"
Atticus Francisci
age 8

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ending March 31st, 1999

REVENUE

Province of Ontario	$12,946,807
Health and Welfare Canada	402,993
Other Government Grants	42,424
Other Children's Aid Societies	110,773
Investment Income	60,321
Donations	26,679
Fund Raising	39,559
Miscellaneous	158,018
	$13,787,574

EXPENDITURES

Salaries	$ 7,002,263
Benefits	915,334
Building Occupancy	142,109
Office Expenses	317,119
Amortization of Capital Assets	301,694
Staff Training	58,697
Promotion and Publicity	46,230
Purchased Services	539,522
Transportation	569,450
Boarding Payments	4,431,435
Health and Related Services	199,808
Client Personal Needs	492,808
Non-Residential Programs	41,174
Client Assistance	33,719
Miscellaneous	118,849
	$15,210,211
Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	(1,422,637)

FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance April 1, 1998	$ 2,996,940
Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenditures	(1,422,637)
Fund Balance March 31, 1999	$ 1,574,303

Budget/Service Plan

In addition to a Base Funding Request of $10,982,430, the Society advised the Ministry that it was anticipating a year end Contingency Funding Request in the amount of $1,249,765 based on expected 1998/99 service volume.

Demand for service during 1998/99 continued to be intense, particularly at Intake and in the Long Term Protection units. Significant staffing additions in these service areas were made during the year as a response to the high service demand. Funding for these additions will be part of the Society's year end Contingency Funding application.

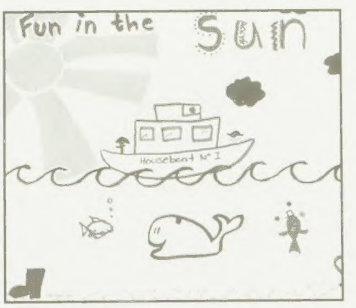
The Society completed 1998/99 with a deficit, according to Ministry of Community and Social Services reporting rules, of $1,761,732. This amount is adjusted by the activities of the Society's Private Funds and the amortization of capital assets, to produce a deficit, according to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (G.A.A.P.) of $1,422,637. Revenues and Expenses associated with this amount are presented in the Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances within the body of this Annual Report.

The end of year Contingency Funding Request outlined the reasons for the large deficit as an increase in both the residential and nonresidential areas and also the financial stresses associated with the Society's Visitation Program for court ordered supervised access visits. The Society is requesting full support of this funding request.

AUDITORS: Grant Thornton
An audited statement of the Society's financial operations for the year ending March 31st, 1999 is available at the Society's office upon your request.

"Playing Baseball"
Zakkary Burton
age 6

"Four Seasons"
Lauren Cook
age 13



"What My Family Does in the Summer"
Rachel Buckley
age 19

1998 DONORS

A Special Thank You To Our Community

Our sincere thanks goes to all those who so generously contributed to the Society's fund raising efforts and campaigns during 1998 and 1999. All donations support the Society's Children's Fund which provides the funding for all of the Specialized Support Services for children and youth, the Youth Employment Program, the Crown Ward Bursary Program, the Summer Camp Program, and family assistance at Christmas time.

Gifts to $499

Mr. & Mrs. John Anderson
Dr. John G. Attridge
Rev. & Mrs. T.M. Bailey
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Baker
Bank of Montreal, Barton & Gage
Mr. Kenneth Bates
Mr. & Mrs. William Beatty
Dr. Edna Birchard
Mr. Leslie Bodo
Ms. Fay Booker
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Booth
Mr. Joe. A. Bregar
Mrs. Karen Brellisford
Dr. D. Campbell
Ms. Elaine L. Campbell
Canada Trust Staff Charity Fund
Central & Strand Press
Ms. Stella Cheeseman
Hamilton Civic Hospital, School of Nursing
Mr. Roy Dafoe
Mr. & Mrs. A. Damaren
Daughters of Penelope #294
Dr. J. Edgar Davey School Staff
Mrs. Doris M. Davidson
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Dean
Mrs. Ivy D. Dolby
Ms. Ethel Eden
Dr. Joseph Falletta
Floral Creations by Unha
Ms. Diane C. Fortman
Mr. & Mrs. William Fulton
Dr. Irwin Fuss
Mrs. Gill Gadsdon
Ms. Catharine Gauley
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Ghent
Ms. Maryanne Gibson
Mrs. June Graham
Ms. Kathy Gravesande
Mr. Norman Hale
Mr. William L. Halpren
Hamilton Air Force Association
H.W.R.P., Project Concern
Mr. Morgan Haskett
Ms. Mary Hobbs
Ms. Joanne Hodgson
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Hogeterp
Dr. J.J. Homer
Mr. Joseph Homer
Mrs. Joan Horne
Dr. & Mrs. S. Horwood
Mr. Peter Jensen
Mrs. Sylvia Kajiura
Ms. Jane Kappele
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kaye
Mr. Niall King
Ms. Susan Kun
Ms. Sonia LeBlanc
Loyal Order of the Moose
Mr. & Mrs. M.K. Luke
Mr. Robert W. MacKenzie
Mrs. Mel Madamba-Wakeham
Mrs. Donna Madden
Mr. W. J. Malcolm
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Marshall
Mary Hopkins Public School
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Masyk
Miss Kathleen R. Mathews
Miss Mary Lorraine McFadden
Dr. & Mrs. D.J. McKenzie
Mrs. Catherine McLay
Mrs. Kristina Mihajlovic
Mr. & Mrs. L.P. Nagy
Ms. Debbie O'Flaherty
Mr. & Mrs. J. Oliver
Ms. Doreen Oostwouder
Our People Fund
Mr. & Mrs. John Pamplin
Path Employment Services
Mr. David Phillips
Gordon Pilkey Estate
Mr. H.A. Pryce
Mr. Kerry Queinn
Ms. Colleen Reid
Rheem Canada Ltd.
Dr. & Mrs. Hugh & D. Richmond
Ms. Jackie Rinaldi
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 163
Ms. Elizabeth Scarlett
Mr. William Shea
Miss Kathryn Sheehan
Mrs. Jean Sibley
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Mr. & Mrs. Noel & Linda Spratt
Mr. Ernest Steele
Mr. & Mrs. David Stephenson
Ms. Helene Szkurhan
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald & Linda Thachuk
Miss Elizabeth Tilson
Ms. Margaret Townsend
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Travers
Dr. Shirin Umar-Khitab
United Way of Burlington, Ham-Went
United Way of Greater Toronto
Mr. Tony Vanderhout
Ms. Charlotte Vlahovich
Miss Barb Watkins
Ms. Vivian I. Waye
We Care Home Health Services
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Webert
Ms. Roberta A. Weiss
Dr. Janet Weisz
Westmount Baptist Church
Canada Trust Wishing Well

Gifts $500 - $999

Trebor Allan Inc.
Mr. Duncan G. Bell
Frank Butty Ltd.
Rotary Club of Hamilton - East Wentworth
Royal Bank of Canada, Upper Gage & Mohawk
Mr. Edward Simmons
United Way of Peel Region
Mr. Steven Weaver

GIFTS IN KIND

Asti's Limousine Service
Bank of Montreal, 50 Bay St. S.
Bell , 75 Centennial Pkwy.
Cambridge Towel & Bedding
Canadian Tire, Main & Victoria
Canadian Tire, Centre Mall
Central & Strand Press
Mr. Rick Csiernik
Delta United Church Congregation
DocuCom Imaging Solutions
Earl's Court Gallery
Firestone Sports Bar
Financial Concept Group
Floral Creations by Unha
Fortino's Supermarket Ltd.
Mrs. Joyce Goodale
Grand & Toy
GWE Group Inc.
H.E.C.F.I.
Hamilton Bulldogs
Hamilton Downtown B.I.A.
Hamilton Shrine Club
The Hamilton Spectator
Jim's Service Centre
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Labanowich
LaCosta Restaurant
Lordley Jones
Mark Industrial Ltd.
Marval Jewellers
Mary Hopkins Public School, Students
McDonald's, Queenston Rd.
Ministry of Community & Social Services
Praxair Canada Inc.
Proctor & Gamble Inc.
Queenston Med-Dental Centre
Queenston Chev-Olds
Radigan Brothers Ltd.
Roy Timm Photography
Ms. Risa Shuman
Sims Advertising
Site of the Green
Springy's Sport & Cycle
St. Giles United Church
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Subway Foods, Wilson St., Ancaster
Summit Direct , Queenston Rd.
Super Clean Car Care
Swiss Chalet, 1563 Main Street West
The Barn Fruit Markets Inc.
G.W. Thompson Pawnbrokers & Jewellers Ltd.
Tim Horton's, Main & Wentworth
Tim Horton's, Upper Ottawa & Fennell
Trulli Clinique
United Trophy Manufacturer's
Mr. Dominic Verticchio
Voortman Cookies
Walker's Chocolates
Wal-Mart Canada
Mr. Bill Wilcox
Zeller's, Upper Sherman & Mohawk

1997 CHRISTMAS DONORS

Asti's Limousine Service
Ms. Debra Boyd
Mrs. Karen Bulmer & Family
C.A.S., Dept. of Planning & Development
Case Credit
CKOC Christmas Miracle
Grant Thornton Chartered Accountants
H.H.S.C., C.C.U.
Hamilton Bulldogs Hockey Club
Hamilton East Kiwanis
Hamilton Harbour West
Hamilton Shrine Club
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police
Henderson Hospital, Ward 498
Ms. Kertuu Hill & Friends
Ms. Brenda Jordan & Family
Kicks Karate
Mrs. Cheryl Koetsier & Family
LaCosta Restaurant
Ms. Rita MacDonald & Family
Mark Industrial Ltd.
McMaster Bookstore
New Life Church, Dundas
Dr. Peeling's Office
Procter & Gamble Inc.
Ms. Christy Rawson
Royal Bank, Upper Gage & Mohawk
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Savoy
Scotiabank, Upper Middle & Walker's Line
Scotiabank, Upper James & Rymal
Sims Advertising
Southwestern Group
St. Joseph's Hospital, C.E.M. Staff
St. Peter's Hospital, Staff
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Tessaro
Ms. Mary Jane Tigchelaar & Family
Mrs. Jan Watson & Family
Ms. Maggie Webber
Weber Architectural

Guardian Angels

GIFTS $1,000 & Over

The Children's Aid Society Foundation

CHML Christmas Tree of Hope

Citizen Action Group

Dofasco Hot Mill Dinner Committee

Hamilton Academy of Veterinary Medicine

The Hamilton Community Foundation

Navistar International

Queenston Leasing

Rotary Club of Waterdown

Sears Canada Inc.

The Snooty Fox

Mr. Warren Sutherland

Mr. and Mrs. T.E. Yates

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Mission Statement

In the best interests of children, the Children's Aid Society of Hamilton-Wentworth is committed to their protection and well-being while supporting the autonomy, integrity, and cultural diversity of families.

"My family on Canada Day"
Zoe Christmas, age 6

All artwork appearing in this annual report was submitted by children who visited the Children's Aid Society's booth at the Earthsong '98 Festival in Hamilton

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